

Applicants : Chad D. Quist, Francis O'Brien and Niall R. Lynam
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REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. In light of the above amendment and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application. The amendments and remarks presented herein are fully supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been entered.

Status of the Claims:

Claims 1-3, 7, 15-17, 20, 21, 23-31, 41, 42, 44-58, 68, 71, 73-79, 81, 82, 84, and 85 are pending in the application. Claims 4-6, 10-14, 18, 19, 22, 32, 34, 36-40, 43, 61-66, 80, 86, and 87 have been cancelled herein. Claims 8, 9, 33, 35, 59, 60, 67, 69, 70, 72, and 83 were previously cancelled.

Claim Rejections Under U.S. 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejects Claims 1, 3-7, 10-21, 28-32, 34, 36-48, 51, 53-55, 58, 61-66, 71, 73-82, and 84-87 under U.S. 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 5,566,224 to Ul Azam et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,091,376 to Takekawa and U.S. Patent No. 5,943,044 to Martinelli.

The Examiner rejects Claims 22-25 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ul Azam et al. in view of Takekawa and Martinelli and U.S. Patent No. 4,707,570 to Ide et al.

The Examiner rejects Claims 2 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ul Azam in view of Takekawa, Martinelli et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,576,687 Blank et al.

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The Examiner rejects Claims 26 and 52 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ul Azam in view of Takekawa and Martinelli et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,262,831 to Bauer et al.

The Examiner rejects Claim 50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ul Azam in view of Takekawa and Martinelli et al. and Blank et al. and Bauer et al.

The Examiner rejects Claims 56-57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ul Azam in view of Takekawa and Martinelli et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,786,772 to Schofield et al.

The Examiner rejects Claim 68 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ul Azam in view of Takekawa, Martinelli et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,497,368 to Friend et al.

Applicants submit that these rejections are now moot in light of the above amendments and, further, request a telephone interview with the Examiner.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and Notice of Allowance of all claims, namely Claims 1-3, 7, 15-17, 20, 21, 23-31, 41, 42, 44-58, 68, 71, 73-79, 81, 82, 84, and 85.

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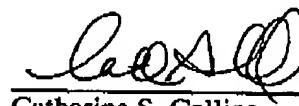
Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.

Respectfully Submitted,

CHAD D. QUIST ET AL.

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

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